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FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

DATE: March 15, 2005

To: **Commissioner
United States Patent and Trademark Office**FROM: Kelly J. McCrystle
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TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING THIS COVER SHEET): 10**MESSAGE:**

U.S. Application No.: 10/027,681

Filed: December 21, 2001

Title: Suture Trimmer

Abbott Ref: 6891.US.O1

Enclosed herewith for the patent application identified above is the following:

1. Transmittal Letter (1 page)
2. Petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b) (2 pages, in duplicate)
3. Response to Office Action (4 pages)

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PTO/SB/21 (09-04)

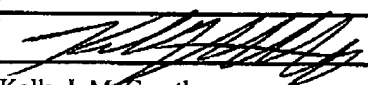
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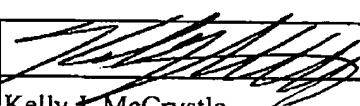
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TRANSMITTAL FORM	Application Number	10/027,681
	Filing Date	December 21, 2001
	First Named Inventor	T Daniel Gross
	Art Unit	3731
	Examiner Name	Jackson, Gary
(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)		
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	9	Attorney Docket Number 6891USO1

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
Remarks _____		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT		
Firm Name	Abbott Laboratories	
Signature		
Printed name	Kelly J. McCrystle	
Date	3/15/05	Reg. No. 46,257

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING		
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below:		
Signature		
Typed or printed name	Kelly J. McCrystle	Date 03/15/2005

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Amendment

Commissioner For Patents
P.O. BOX 1450
Alexandria VA, 22314

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action of May 28, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows, and consider the remarks below. Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Claims – are reflected in the listing of the claims that begins on page 2.

Remarks begin on page 4.